

Eligible Acreage

- Acreage eligible for managed haying or grazing includes acreage with the following practices:

CP1-Introduced grasses and legumes

CP2-Permanent native grasses

CP4B-Permanent wildlife habitat (corridors)

CP4D-Permanent wildlife habitat

CP10-Vegetative Cover - Grass- Already established

CP18B-Establishment of permanent vegetation to reduce salinity

CP18C-Establishment of permanent salt tolerant vegetative cover

Note: Managed haying or grazing may not be performed within 100 feet of a stream or other permanent waterbody.

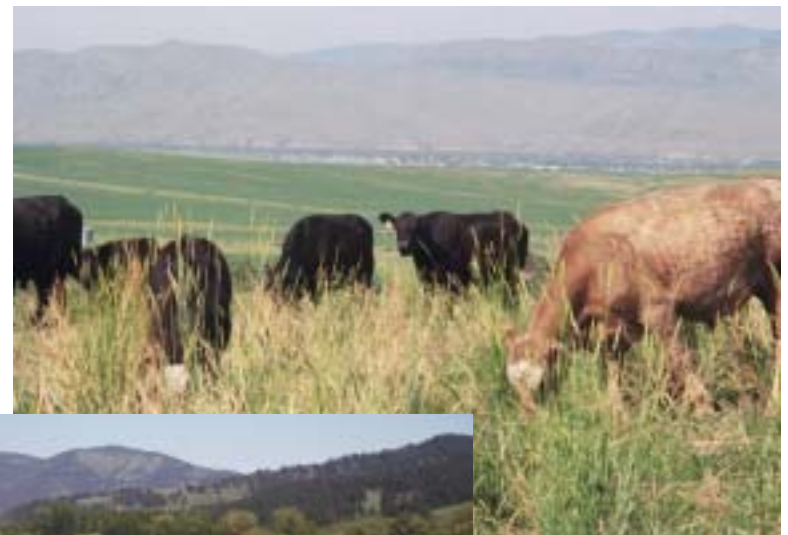
Payment Reduction

- The annual rental payment shall be reduced by the number of acres actually hayed or grazed, times the CRP per acre annual rental payment, times 25 percent.

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Managing Haying and Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)



For more information on Managed Haying and Grazing on CRP:
Contact your local USDA Service Center or log on to the
Montana Farm Service Agency website at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/mt>

Program Purpose

The 2002 Farm Bill proposed a Managed Haying and Grazing practice under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Before the new Farm Bill, haying and grazing of CRP acreage was permitted only during droughts or similar weather-related emergencies.

Signup

Beginning in calendar year 2003, CRP participants may perform managed haying and grazing of CRP acreage except during the primary nesting season which is from May 15 through August 1.

Enrollment Criteria

- Managed haying and grazing is limited to no more than once every 3 years,
- 2003 will be considered year 1 of the management cycle for all CRP contracts already in effect,
- For new CRP contracts, year 1 of managed haying and grazing will begin 12 months after the cover is fully established,
- Restrictions apply to environmentally sensitive areas or practices,
- For existing CRP contracts, managed haying and grazing can begin only after the conservation plan has been modified to include haying or grazing management.

Conservation Plan Requirements

- Ensure the long-term viability of the stand, while protecting and enhancing the soil, water, wildlife and other natural resources of the CRP acreage,
- Be site specific,
- State haying is limited to 1 cutting,
- Control of noxious weeds and other weeds, insects and pests,
- All managed haying and grazing must be performed according to the conservation plan,
- USDA will conduct compliance reviews.

What the producer needs to do to apply for Managed Haying and Grazing

- Identify the acreage to be hayed or grazed on an aerial photograph,
- Obtain a conservation plan including haying or grazing requirements,
- Record the intended use on DF-21,
- Have all participants sign the “Terms and Conditions for Managed Haying and Grazing” agreement before managed haying or grazing begins,
- Receive notification of approval from the FSA county committee in writing before managed haying or grazing can begin,
- Livestock producers, who rent or lease acreage from the CRP participant, shall sign a statement agreeing not to sublease the CRP acreage, receive notification of approval from the FSA county committee, and provide a copy of the notification to the CRP participant.

What the producer needs to do when Managed Haying or Grazing is completed

- CRP participants who hayed or grazed CRP acres or rented or leased haying or grazing privileges need to report the number of acres actually hayed or grazed and sign and date DF-25,
- Re-establish the CRP cover at their own expense if the cover failed as a result of managed haying or grazing,
- Remove all hay or livestock by a date determined by the FSA State Committee,
- Cease all managed haying and grazing by the date determined by the FSA State Committee.